

6N487 Crane Rd.  
St. Charles, IL 60175  
Phone: 630-338-8000  
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[www.stpatrickparish.org](http://www.stpatrickparish.org)



Dear Future Bride and Groom:

Congratulations on your engagement to be married! This wedding packet is designed to assist you in planning your wedding liturgy. Enclosed you will find the answers to many questions which you may have.

Along with the *“Music and Liturgy Guidelines”* you will also find:

- Choices for your Scripture readings, including the Responsorial Psalm
- A “Liturgy of The Word” selection page  
*(to be filled out and brought to our meeting)*
- A “Photographer/Videographer Guidelines” sheet
- A “Flowers and Decorations” Guideline sheet
- A “Wedding Rehearsal” sheet
- Various other pages with information that may be of interest to you

Our wedding team looks forward to working with you as you prepare for your special day. Again, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely in Christ

*Msgr. Steve*

Msgr. Steve Knox

Pastor

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## Wedding Guidelines

After you've met with one of the priests, please call or email our Director of Music Ministry, Cyndee Zbylut, to verify that she has received the information regarding your upcoming wedding, and to be certain that you are penciled in on her calendar. She can be contacted at 630-338-8031 or by email at [music@stpatrickparish.org](mailto:music@stpatrickparish.org).

Some of the information you'll read in these guidelines may have already been mentioned in the bi-fold "General Guidelines" brochure you received in the packet when you first met with the priest, so please bear with us.

Weddings are celebrated on Friday afternoons, no later than 4:00pm, and on Saturdays at 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Crane Road and at 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Downtown Church. Weddings are not scheduled on Sunday. A couple is assured the use of the Church for two hours, beginning one-half hour before the ceremony begins, and ending approximately thirty to forty-five minutes after the ceremony. For example, a couple whose ceremony is scheduled for 1:00 p.m. would have use of the Church from 12:30 p.m. until 2:30pm. We normally have a full schedule, so as a courtesy to the others, we ask that all weddings begin on time since we are normally unable to extend the two hour time frame. We also ask that you please have your receiving line at the reception hall and not here at the church. This will allow you more time for pictures.

### SAFETY FIRST

For your own personal safety, and that of your guests, **the use of an aisle runner is not permitted.**

**Bridal arches, lighted candles, (other than those already in the sanctuary), and lighted candelabras, in the aisles or elsewhere, are not allowed.**

Flower girls **are not allowed** to drop flower petals (*real or silk*) on the floors. Someone could slip on them. Other suggestions are offered on the "Odds and Ends" page in the packet.

There is no smoking allowed in the church building. Gum chewing is not appropriate in church. **The consumption of alcoholic beverages is not allowed at any time in the church or on the church's property.** If your limo service offers champagne for the bride and groom, this must be done off the church's property.

### **PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO TAPING**

Please be sure to read the sheet entitled “Photography and Videography” which is enclosed in this packet. Please provide your photographer and videographer with a copy of these guidelines. This is very important because it prevents any last minute confusion regarding church policy for the photographers/videographers when they get to the church. If the photographer or videographer is a friend or relative, the same guidelines apply.

We ask that you please inform your guests that in order to ensure a prayerful ceremony, **Flash photography is not permitted during the ceremony.** We suggest including a note with your invitations regarding this. Many professional photographers have told us that when family members or friends are taking “flash” pictures, it produces too much light for the professional photographer, many times ruining those special photos that you have hired him/her to take.

### **FLOWERS AND CHURCH DECORATIONS**

Consider the beauty of St. Patrick’s two Churches. With this in mind, your thoughts on the flowers and decorations should stress this very basic idea ... less is more.

Please read the sheet entitled “Flowers and Church Decorations” which is also enclosed in this packet. *Please give a copy of the guidelines to your florist.* This prevents any last minute confusion over the placement of flowers and the use of bows or other decorations on the pews. If they have any questions, please ask them to contact: Cyndee Zbylut at [music@stpatrikparish.org](mailto:music@stpatrikparish.org) or 630-338-8031.

### **CUSTOMS AND TRADITIONS**

Any special customs or traditions, such as the coins, Bible, rosary, veil and lasso, that you wish to include in your wedding, should be discussed with the priest.

### **CHILDREN IN THE WEDDING PARTY**

Flower girls and ring bearers are a welcome and beautiful addition to weddings. However, to avoid disruptions of the procession when the children decide at the last minute that they don’t want to walk down the aisle, **we suggest that the children be at four three years old.** They may participate in the processional and recessional. We ask that during the ceremony they sit with their parents or family members, not with the wedding party. Younger children are cute in this role, but many times cause disruptions and “complete stops” in the flow of the processional march.

## **THE WEDDING REHEARSAL**

Rehearsals are normally scheduled on the evening before the wedding. Rehearsals are Thursday at 5:30 p.m. for a Friday wedding or Friday at 5:30 or 6:30 p.m. for a Saturday wedding. Your Wedding Coordinator normally conducts the wedding rehearsal. We ask that you and your wedding party please respect them and their schedule by arriving on time. **All rehearsals begin on time. A 6:30 p.m. rehearsal time means that everyone is in the church ready to begin at 6:00 p.m., not that everyone walks into the church as a group at 6:30pm.** As the bride and groom, it is your responsibility to ensure that your entire wedding party is at the church **at least fifteen minutes early. Rehearsals will start no later than five minutes after the scheduled time; no matter who is missing.** To avoid any confusion at the wedding, we ask that **all** members of the wedding party, including readers, gift bearers, and ushers be present for the rehearsal. Please complete the "Wedding Rehearsal" sheet enclosed in this packet. For planning purposes this sheet should be turned in at the parish office with your other paperwork.

Lectors (readers) will be asked to practice their Scripture reading while using the church's sound system; this is why it is so important they be at the rehearsal. Please provide a copy of your selected readings to your readers so they can become familiar with them. If you have chosen someone to read the General Intercessions (*Prayers of the Faithful*), that person should also attend the rehearsal.

## **PRIOR TO THE CEREMONY**

There is a "bride's room" available for your use. The bride and bridesmaids may dress in the bride's room if they wish, or they may arrive "ready to go". The bride and bridesmaids should be in the building no later than a half-hour prior to the wedding. The groom and groomsmen normally arrive one half hour early, dressed and ready for pictures; we don't have a private room here in which the guys can get dressed. The Wedding Coordinator will be available to assist you and your guests as needed. A small table is available, upon request, for your guest book if you wish to bring it to the church.

## **THE WEDDING CEREMONY**

A great deal of attention is focused on you, the bride and groom, during the wedding liturgy. You help to set the tone for the assembly by your own attitudes and behavior. If you join in the prayers and singing during the liturgy, others in the assembly will be inclined to follow your lead. The church will provide a padded kneeler for the couple during the wedding ceremony.

## MUSIC

Music for weddings involves informed and liturgical judgment. For the sake of good planning, and out of professional respect, **all music plans must be made through the parish's Director of Music Ministry.** To begin preparations for your wedding music, please visit our web site at **www.stpatrickparish.org** and click on **"Music Ministry,"** then **"Wedding Music—Step 1."** The first step is registration. The second step is actually selecting your music. There are videos or audio clips of the songs so you can listen to them. After you complete Step 1, the Director of Music Ministry, Cyndee Zbylut, will be in touch with you to help guide you through the process. You should have your music selections finalized a month before the wedding to allow the musicians to prepare well.

**Please do not contact any musicians to play or sing at your wedding until you have spoken with Cyndee. We are very fortunate to have a number of very qualified vocalists and instrumentalists here at St. Patrick, and we strongly recommend that you use them. They are the preferred musicians, and are expected to provide the music for all liturgical celebrations here at St. Patrick.**

If you have a family member or friend who is a musician or vocalist, and you want him or her to play and/or sing for your wedding, this must be discussed with Cyndee before asking the person. This person **must** have knowledge in, and experience with, Catholic liturgy. *(Additional fees of \$50.00 per hour for rehearsal time with this person will be added to the organist fee.)*

Cyndee is contractually obligated, as Director of Music Ministry at St. Patrick, to provide the music for all liturgies. In the event that you should choose to bring in your own musicians, and/or use our other parish musicians for the wedding, Cyndee must still be present at the wedding to ensure that things run smoothly and to oversee the use of all sound equipment. She receives a \$100.00 fee in this instance.

When thinking about your music, please be aware that while some music is pretty, or is your "special song", it may not be appropriate for a sacramental celebration. Popular, secular music is best used at your reception, not at the wedding liturgy here at the church. All musical selections must be appropriate to the occasion and liturgically proper. For this reason selections from operas and movies are not allowed. The use of recorded music such as mp3's or CD's is not an option.

We have had couples inquire as to whether they could have a bagpiper at their wedding. It has been strongly suggested to us by many professional bagpipers that the bagpiper should play only outside in front of the church before and/or after the ceremony. Bagpipes are extremely loud in the nave of the church. We ask that you please honor our request that bagpipers remain outside of the building when playing. Please let Cyndee know if you will have a bagpiper outside so music inside and outside can be coordinated.

All members of the bridal party, including the groom and best man, will process in from the back of the church with the priest and altar servers. The bridal party will walk in as couples; the men do not meet the women at the front of the church. This is the only way the procession is done here at St. Patrick.

**After the Ceremony:**

Before you leave the building, please take the time for you, or someone you've appointed, to take one last look around the church, in the bride's room, and in the gathering area to be sure everything has been picked up, and to make sure you have not left anything that you brought with you. A good idea is to ask one or two people to clean up for you while you are having your pictures taken.

**Saint Patrick Church is not responsible for lost items. Please make sure someone is watching your valuables at all times.**

**Registering in the Parish:**

Please note that your marriage at Saint Patrick Catholic Church does not automatically make you a member of the parish. Therefore, if you will be living in the parish after your marriage, please register as a married couple by calling the parish office during office hours (8:30am – 4:00pm) at 630-338-8000.

*Thank you for your assistance and cooperation  
in following the parish guidelines and customs.*

## Odds & Ends

**PLEASE** be sure to tell everyone to allow themselves plenty of time to get to the rehearsal and the wedding. We usually have more than one wedding or rehearsal per day, so **being prompt is VERY important.**

Through experience, **it is highly suggested that your ring bearer and/or flower girl be at least 4 years old.** (Nine times out of ten, the younger kids will not walk down the aisle without causing a disruption in the procession.)

As mentioned in the guidelines, **flower girls are not allowed to drop flower petals on the floor.** Many brides have chosen the option to have their flower girl instead carry a small basket with a floral arrangement in it.

We ask that you do not use glitter on any of the flowers, and please do not use body or hair glitter until you leave the church. The glitter gets on the carpet, causing considerable cleaning problems for church personnel. It also gets on the guys' tuxes which then shows in the pictures.

Bring a small sewing kit, some scotch tape, things like that, with you on the day of the wedding. (You may need them in a pinch.)

If you'll be using 'programs', have one or two people assigned to hand them out.

If you'll be having bubbles, bells, etc. handed out after the ceremony, please be sure to have one or two people assigned to hand them out. Preferably not any of the following: someone in the wedding party, a reader, an usher, your parents, or the Mom or Dad of the ring bearer or flower girl. *Nothing* may be thrown inside or outside the church (birdseed, rice, confetti, flower petals, etc.)

In the interest of safety, we ask that you not use candelabras, bridal arches, or aisle runners.

The use of a Unity Candle is not allowed in the Diocese of Rockford.

Have one or more people assigned to go around the church, the gathering area, and the bride's room to pick up programs, tissues, water bottles, film boxes, etc. after the wedding.

**Most importantly ... relax ... take a deep breath ... It will all work out just fine.**

*Scripture  
Choices  
For Your  
Wedding*



# 1.

*Genesis 1:26-28, 31a*

**A reading from the Book of Genesis**

God said:

“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.  
Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,  
the birds of the air, and the cattle, and over all the wild animals  
and all the creatures that crawl on the ground.”

God created man in his image;  
in the divine image he created him; male and female he created them.

God blessed them, saying:  
“Be fertile and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it.  
Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,  
and all the living things that move on the earth.”

God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good.

The word of the Lord.

# 2.

*Genesis 2:18-24*

***A reading from the Book of Genesis***

The Lord God said: “It is not good for the man to be alone.  
I will make a suitable partner for him.”

So the Lord God formed out of the ground  
various wild animals and various birds of the air,  
and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them;  
whatever the man called each of them would be its name.

The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all wild animals;  
but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man.

So the Lord God cast a deep sleep on the man,  
and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh.

The Lord God then built up into a woman the rib  
that he had taken from the man.

When he brought her to the man, the man said:  
“This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh;  
This one shall be called ‘woman,’ for out of ‘her man’ this one has been taken.”

That is why a man leaves his father and mother  
and clings to his wife,  
and the two of them become one body.

The word of the Lord.

# 3.

*Tobit 8:4b-8*

**A reading from the Book of Tobit**

On their wedding night Tobiah arose from bed and said to his wife,  
“My love, get up. Let us pray and beg our Lord  
to have mercy on us and to grant us deliverance.”  
She got up, and they started to pray and beg that deliverance might be theirs.  
He began with these words:

“Blessed are you, O God of our fathers; praised be your name forever and ever.  
Let the heavens and all your creation praise you forever.  
You made Adam and you gave him his wife Eve to be his help and support;  
and from these two the human race descended.  
You said, ‘It is not good for the man to be alone;  
let us make him a partner like himself.’  
Now, Lord, you know that I take this wife of mine not because of lust,  
but for a noble purpose.  
Call down your mercy on me and on her,  
and allow us to live together to a happy old age.”  
They said together, “Amen, amen.”

The word of the Lord.

# 4.

Song of Songs 2:8-10, 14, 16; 8:6-7

***A reading from the Song of Songs***

Hark! my lover — here he comes  
springing across the mountains, leaping across the hills.  
My lover is like a gazelle or a young stag.  
Here he stands behind our wall, gazing through the windows, peering through the lattices.  
My lover speaks; he says to me, “Arise, my beloved, my beautiful one and come!  
“O my dove in the clefts of the rock, in the secret recesses of the cliff,  
Let me see you, let me hear your voice,  
For your voice is sweet, and you are lovely.”  
My lover belongs to me and I to him.  
He says to me:  
“Set me as a seal on your heart, as a seal on your arm;  
For stern as death is love,  
relentless as the nether-world is devotion; its flames are a blazing fire.  
Deep waters cannot quench love, nor floods sweep it away.”

The word of the Lord.

# 5.

Sirach 26:1-4, 13-16

*A reading from the Book of Sirach*

Blessed the husband of a good wife, twice-lengthened are his days;  
A worthy wife brings joy to her husband, peaceful and full is his life.  
A good wife is a generous gift bestowed upon him who fears the Lord;  
Be he rich or poor, his heart is content, and a smile is ever on his face.

A gracious wife delights her husband; her thoughtfulness puts flesh on his bones;  
A gift from the Lord is her governed speech, and her firm virtue is of surpassing worth.  
Choicest of blessings is a modest wife, priceless her chaste soul.  
A holy and decent woman adds grace upon grace;  
indeed, no price is worthy of her temperate soul.  
Like the sun rising in the Lord's heavens,  
the beauty of a virtuous wife is the radiance of her home.

The word of the Lord.

# 6.

Jeremiah 29:11-14a

**A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah**

For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the LORD,  
plans for your welfare, not for woe!  
Plans to give you a future full of hope.  
When you call me, when you go to pray to me,  
I will listen to you.  
When you look for me, you will find me.  
Yes, when you seek me with all your heart,  
you will find me with you, says the LORD.

The word of the Lord.

## *Responsorial Psalms for Weddings*

(Please Choose One)

**You may listen to excerpts of these Psalms on our  
Parish web site at [www.stpatrickparish.org](http://www.stpatrickparish.org).  
Click on “Music Ministry” then  
“Wedding Music—Step 2.”  
Responsorial Psalms are on slide 13.**

Psalm 33 ~ The Earth is full of the Goodness of the Lord  
*Music setting by Howard Hughes*

Psalm 34 ~ Taste and see the goodness of the Lord  
*Music setting by William Ferris*

Psalm 103 ~ The Lord is Kind and Merciful  
*Music setting by William Ferris or Joseph Geilneau*

Psalm 128 (three options for the antiphon)  
May the Lord bless and protect us all the days of our life.  
*Music setting by Joseph Gelineau*  
Blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in His ways.  
*Music Setting by William Ferris*  
May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.  
*Music setting by Lisa Stafford*

Psalm 145 ~ I Will Praise Your Name Forever  
*Music setting by William Ferris or Joseph Geilneau*



# 1.

1 Corinthians 12:31 - 13:8a

**A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians**

Brothers and sisters:

Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.

But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love,

I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

And if I have the gift of prophecy

and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;

if I have all faith so as to move mountains,

but do not have love, I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast

but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind.

It is not jealous, is not pompous, it is not inflated, it is not rude,

it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered,

it does not brood over injury, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing

but rejoices with the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails.

The word of the Lord.

# 2.

Ephesians 5:2, 25-32

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians**

Brothers and sisters:

Live in love, as Christ loves us and handed himself over for us.

Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the Church  
and handed himself over for her to sanctify her,  
cleansing her by the bath of water with the word,  
that he might present to himself the Church in splendor,  
without spot or wrinkle or any such thing,  
that she might be holy and without blemish.

So also husbands should love their wives as their own bodies.

He who loves his wife loves himself.

For no one hates his own flesh but rather nourishes and cherishes it,  
even as Christ does the Church, because we are members of his Body.

For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother and be joined to his wife,  
and the two shall become one flesh.

This is a great mystery, but I speak in reference to Christ and the Church.

The word of the Lord.

# 3.

*Colossians 3:12-17*

**A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians**

Brothers and sisters:

Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,  
heartfelt compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience,  
bearing with one another and forgiving one another.

If one has a grievance against another;  
as the Lord has forgiven you, so must you also do.

And over all these put on love, that is, the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,  
the peace into which you were also called in one Body.

And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.

as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,  
singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God.

And whatever you do, in word or in deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord.

# 4.

1 John 4:7-12

**A reading from the first Letter of Saint John**

Beloved, let us love one another,  
because love is of God;  
everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.  
Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.  
In this way the love of God was revealed to us:  
God sent his only-begotten Son into the world  
so that we might have life through him.  
In this is love:  
not that we have loved God, but that he loved us  
and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.  
Beloved, if God so loved us,  
we also must love one another.  
No one has ever seen God.  
Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us,  
and his love is brought to perfection in us.

The word of the Lord.

*The Gospel reading is normally selected by the priest or deacon who will be  
presiding at the ceremony.*

*This allows the priest or deacon to better prepare his homily.*

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## *Liturgy of the Word*

### *Scripture Selections*

Date of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Ceremony: \_\_\_\_\_

Bride's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Groom's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Presider: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

Please write your selections below.

(Example: # 2 – Genesis 2:18-24)

First Reading (Old Testament): \_\_\_\_\_

Read By: \_\_\_\_\_

Responsorial Psalm: (*Sung by cantor/song leader*) \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading (New Testament): \_\_\_\_\_

Read By: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*\*\*

### **General Intercessions**

*(Prayers of the Faithful)*

If someone other than the priest will be reading the Prayers of the Faithful,  
please list that person's name here:

\_\_\_\_\_

***Please have this form completed and returned one month before the wedding. You can also submit the information online at <http://www.stpatrickparish.org/liturgy-sacraments/music-ministry/wedding-information/>***

## Wedding Rehearsal Information

Please print neatly and return this form to the parish office at least one month before the wedding with your other paperwork. This will save us all a lot of time at the rehearsal. Thank you for your cooperation!

Date of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Rehearsal: \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Rehearsal: \_\_\_\_\_

The wedding is a \_\_\_\_\_ Wedding Mass \_\_\_\_\_ Nuptial Ceremony (no Communion)

Bride: \_\_\_\_\_

Groom: \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Bride's Parents: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Who will escort the bride during the processional? \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Groom's Parents: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Does the bride have grandparents who will be attending the ceremony?

If yes, list names here: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Does the groom have grandparents who will be attending the ceremony?

If yes, list names here: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Is there any other information that the Wedding Coordinator, Musicians, or the priest, need to be aware of?  
(ex. Do we need to be attentive to the needs of guests with disabilities, wheel chair accessibility, etc.?)

\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT NEATLY and return at least one month before the wedding.**

\_\_\_\_\_



## General Intercessions (Prayers of the Faithful)

Please return at least one week before the wedding.

Date and Time of Wedding: \_\_\_\_\_

### Our response is: “Lord, hear our prayer.”

1. For the Church throughout the world: may our faith in the love God has for us be expressed in our love for one another, we pray to the Lord...
2. For peace in our world: may all lands that suffer violence and injustice find peace and reconciliation, we pray to the Lord...
3. For those preparing for the Sacrament of Marriage: may they grow in wisdom and grace, and see their vocation to married life as a sign from God, we pray to the Lord...
4. For \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, who begin their married life together this day: may they experience the love of God, the support of family and friends, and the blessings of children, we pray to the Lord...
5. For those who have died, we especially remember:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
may they enjoy perfect happiness and total fulfillment in eternal life, we pray to the Lord...

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## Flowers and Church Decorations — Wedding Guidelines —

Thank you for your cooperation, and if you have any questions please feel free to contact Cyndee Zbylut at [music@stpatrickparish.org](mailto:music@stpatrickparish.org).

**The use of an aisle runner is not allowed. Flower girls are not allowed to drop flower petals (real or silk) on the floors.** Slipping on these materials could cause a serious fall or injury to someone. *When stepped on, 'real' petals also stain the marble and/or carpet.* Dropping flower petals, real or artificial, is not allowed outside of the church either.

**The use of a Unity Candle during the wedding liturgy is not allowed in the Diocese of Rockford.** This ceremony works well at the wedding reception.

Flowers may be placed beside the Altar in the sanctuary.

**Flowers must not be placed on the main altar, (the table on which Mass is celebrated).**

Florists are cautioned against any floral arrangements or decorations that may prove harmful to church property. We request that all floral arrangements be placed on plastic trays to prevent damage from water leakage.

We request that you **please** not use any glitter on any bouquets, or floral arrangements. The glitter falls off the flowers and causes considerable cleaning problems for church personnel; the glitter also gets all over the groomsmen's tuxes and bridesmaids' dresses.

The use of bridal arches, lighted candles, (*other than the altar candles already in the sanctuary*), and lighted candelabras, in the aisles or elsewhere, is not allowed.

Pipe cleaners, ribbon, elastic, or large rubber bands are the only acceptable way to attach bows or flowers to the ends of the pews. Tape, tacks, and plastic clips, (*the ones that aren't supposed to leave marks, but do*), will damage the pews.

If placing long ribbons, any type of flowers, ivy, etc. into the pew bow, these must not be any longer than the pew height. They must not cascade onto the floor.

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## **PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEOGRAPHY**

(Parish Policy for Weddings)

Thank you for your cooperation in observing our photography/videography guidelines. If you have any questions, please contact our Wedding Coordinator, Janice Young at 630-587-9016.

All photographers and/or videographers, professional and/or amateur, must speak with the priest before setting up any equipment in the church. We are grateful to photographers and videographers who respect the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, and take care to make sure that the reverent environment of the church is not changed into the environment of a studio. **At no time should photography or videography be a distraction to the priest, wedding party, guests or musicians.**

Photographers/videographers are asked to not enter the sanctuary (*the entire area, including the steps, around the altar*) at any time. You are asked to remain in a fixed location as much as possible. If you move around too much and become a distraction, the priest has the right to stop the ceremony and ask you to sit down.

Photographers may only use “flash” during the processional and recessional. “Flash” or other bright lights are prohibited during the ceremony. This includes any extra lighting used by videographers. Extra lighting may be used, only if necessary, AFTER the ceremony when the bridal party comes back into the church for formal posing of pictures.

Please do not ask anyone to stop to pose for pictures during the processional and recessional; this really disrupts the flow of the processions. We ask that all formal posing for pictures be done either before or after the ceremony.

The taping of microphone wires or electrical cords to the floors, or to church property is not allowed.

### **Post wedding photography:**

On Saturdays, all photography and videotaping must be completed, and everyone finished in the church building within ninety minutes of the wedding’s scheduled start time.

Sample note that should be placed somewhere in your program.

Welcome to our family members and friends who have gathered to celebrate our marriage today. We thank each of you for coming from near and far to be with us as we begin our married life. This program contains an outline of the service for our wedding liturgy. We invite you to sing and participate fully! We also kindly ask that flash photography **not** be used during the ceremony.

Thank you!!

*Bride and Groom first names here*

Sample of how to list wedding participants in your program

*(This is a 'generic' list. All things listed may not apply in your particular situation.)*

Bride's Parents  
Groom's Parents  
Bride's Grandparents  
Groom's Grandparents

### The Wedding Party

Maid or Matron of Honor  
Best Man  
Bridesmaids  
Groomsmen  
Flower Girl  
Ring Bearer  
Ushers *(if not also groomsmen)*

### Ministers of the Liturgy

Principal Celebrant: *Priest or Deacon's Name*  
Ministers of Music: *Names of organist, cantor and/or soloist(s)*  
Readers: *Names of the readers of 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> readings*  
*Name of person reading the General Intercessions (If not the priest)*  
Names of Gift Bearers: *(If having a Mass)*

# *The Order of Celebrating Matrimony within Mass*

## **The Introductory Rites**

Entrance Procession  
Sign of the Cross  
Greeting  
Introduction  
Glory to God  
Collect (*Opening Prayer*)

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

First Reading (*Old Testament*)  
Responsorial Psalm  
Second Reading (*New Testament*)  
Gospel Acclamation  
Gospel  
Homily

## **The Celebration of Matrimony**

Address to the Bride and Groom  
The Questions before the Consent  
The Consent  
The Reception of the Consent  
The Blessing and Giving of Rings  
[Hymn or Canticle of Praise, *optional*]  
The Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)

## **The Liturgy of the Eucharist**

Presentation of the Gifts  
Prayer over the Offerings  
Eucharistic Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer  
Nuptial Blessing  
Sign of Peace  
Distribution of Holy Communion (Communion Song)  
Prayer after Communion

## **The Concluding Rite**

[Presentation of Flowers to the Blessed Mother, *Optional*]  
Solemn Blessing  
The Recessional

# *The Order of Celebrating Matrimony Without Mass*

## **The Introductory Rites**

Entrance Procession  
Entrance Song  
Sign of the Cross  
Greeting  
Introduction  
Collect (*Opening Prayer*)

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

First Reading (*Old Testament*)  
Responsorial Psalm  
Second Reading (*New Testament*)  
Gospel Acclamation  
Gospel  
Homily

## **The Celebration of Matrimony**

Address to the Bride and Groom  
The Questions before the Consent  
The Consent  
The Reception of the Consent  
The Blessing and Giving of Rings  
[Hymn or Canticle of Praise, *optional*]  
The Universal Prayer (Prayer of the Faithful)  
The Lord's Prayer  
Nuptial Blessing

## **The Conclusion of the Celebration**

[Presentation of Flowers to the Blessed Mother, *Optional*]  
Simple Blessing  
[Song]  
The Recessional